Rep. Slaughter Applauds Increase in Payments to Dairy Farmers

**WASHINGTON** –Today, Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Chairwoman of the House Committee on Rules, applauded Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack's decision to increase payments to dairy farmers through the dairy price support program through October.

"I am very pleased Secretary Vilsack took into consideration the concerns expressed to him by the members of Congress whom represent the nation's dairy farmers and decided to increase the price paid to farmers for milk and cheese through the dairy price support program," Rep. Slaughter said. "While this step is essential to providing Western New York's farmers with immediate relief from this crisis, we must still reexamine the policies currently in place to ensure the livelihood of our dairy farmers over the long run and prevent future hardship."

Rep. Slaughter joined the recently formed House Dairy Caucus on Wednesday echoing the hardships faced by New York's nearly 6,000 dairy farmers. Video of her remarks is available at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOYLbYOJAxk